(a) whether the Army Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur has supplied inferior quality rifles to the Border Security Force;

(b) if so, whether Border Security Force has accepted the same without any testing their quality;

(c) the number of rifles supplied to B.S.F. and other security forces and police found to be non-working;

(d) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has adversely remarked against the Home Ministry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDERJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (c) Army Ordnance Depot, Jabalpur had supplied 10,000 Nos. of AK-47 rifles each to BSF and CRPF, out of which 196 Nos. and 20 Nos. were found to be defective respectively. As per the directions of the Ministry of Defence, normal inspection procedure of the weapons was dispensed with.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The matter has been taken up with Ministry of Defence to get the defective rifles replaced by the supplier.

Development of Coastal Rail Line

4099. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of the coastal railway line between Ernakulam and Kayamkulam via. Alleppey; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) A survey for the proposed coastal line has been taken up. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Parcel Porters

4100. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parcel Porters working under the Labour Cooperative Societies on the Northern Railway have filed cases in High Court/Supreme Court for their absorption as Class IV employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to abolish the contract system totally in Northern and South Eastern Railway to give social justice by way of giving permanent status to the parcel porters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following cases have been filed in the Supreme Court of India;

(i) Shri Raghavendra Gumast tha V/s Union of India and Others—One Petition.

(ii) National Federation of Railway Porters, Vendors and Bearers V/s Union of India—Four Petitions.

(iii) The National Federation of Railway Parcel Porters V/s Union of India and Others—One Petition.

(iv) National Federation of Railway Porters through its General Secretary and Others V/s Union of India—Three Petitions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

New Stoppages

4101. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new stoppages of express and other important trains provided at various stations in Kerala during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have received further representations for providing more stoppages of important/Express trains in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) During 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96, 6, 6 and 16 additional stoppage of express trains have been provided in Kerala.

(b) and (c) A number of representations for stoppages are received at different levels of Railways administrations which are duly examined and action as found feasible and justified is taken.

Air Brake System

4102. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of trains running with air brake system, zone-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide air-brake system to some more trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) A Statement is attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

List Of Mail/Express Air Brake Trains

CENTRAL RAILWAY

1. 1005/1006 Vidharbha Express
2. 1007/1008 Deccan Express
3. 1009/1010 Sinhagad Express
4. 1021/1022 Indrayani Express
5. 1023/1024 Siddeshwar Express
6. 1025/1026 Pragati Express
7. 1033/1034 Pushpak Express
8. 1063/1064 Chhennai Express
9. 1093/1094 Mahanagari Express
10. 2123/2124 Deccan Queen
11. 2179/2180 Taj Express
12. 1401/1402 Panchvati Express

EASTERN RAILWAY

1. 2303/2304 Poorva Express
2. 2381/2382 Poorva Express
3. 2311/2312 Kalka Mail
4. 2391/2392 Magadh Express
5. 3029/3030 Coalfield Express
6. 3035/3036 Howrah-Asansol Express
7. 3133/3134 Sealdah-Mughalsarai Express
8. 3467/3468 Vikramshila Express
9. 3317/3318 Black Diamond Express
10. 3419/3420 Jansewa Express

NORTHERN RAILWAY

1. 2401/2402 Sharmjeevi Express
2. 2403/2404 Puja Express
3. 2413/2414 Delhi-Jaipur Express
4. 2417/2418 Prayagraj Express
5. 2419/2420 Gomti Express
6. 2471/2472 Jammu Tawi-Bombay
7. 2473/2474 Jammu Tawi-Ahmadabad Express
8. 2475/2476 Jammu Tawi-Rajkot Express
9. 2477/2478 Jammu Tawi-Hapa Express
10. 2497/2498 Shan-E-Punjab Express
11. 4001/4002 Delhi-Attari Express
12. 4003/4004 Nizamuddin-Agra Express
13. 4057/4058 Kashi Vishwanath Express
14. 4085/4086 Haryana Express
15. 4227/4228 Varuna Express
16. 4659/4660 New Delhi-Amritsar Express
17. 4229/4230 Lucknow Mail

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

1. 2553/2554 Vaishali Express
2. 5207/5208 Amritsar-Barauni Express

NORTH EAST-FRONTIER RAILWAY

1. 5621/5622 North East Express

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

1. 2615/2616 G.T. Express
2. 2621/2622 Tamil Nadu Express
3. 2639/2640 Brindavan Express
4. 2675/2676 Kovai Express
5. 6303/6304 Vanchinad Express
6. 6089/6090 Yelagiri Express
7. 6341/6342 Ernakulam-Trivandrum Express
8. 6307/6308 Ernakulam-Cannanore Express
9. 6673/6674 Cheran Express
10. 6053/6054 Madras-Tirupati Express
11. 6057/6058 Sapthagiri Express

S.C. RAILWAY

1. 7001/7002 Hussainsagar Express
2. 7007/7008 Godavari Express
3. 7031/7032 Hyderabad-Mumbai Express

4. 7059/7060 Charminar Express

5. 2723/2724 Andhra Pradesh Express

6. 7405/7406 Krishna Express

S.E. RAILWAY

1. 2841/2842 Coromandal Express

2. 2859/2860 Geetanjali Express

3. 2821/2822 Bhauli Express

4. 8007/8008 Howrah-Puri Express

5. 8013/8014 Steel Express

WESTERN RAILWAY

1. 2903/2904 Golden Temple Mail

2. 2925/2926 Paschim Express

3. 2955/2956 Jaipur-Mumbai Express

4. 2961/2962 Avantika Express

5. 9101/9102 Gujarat Mail

(c) Following Mail/Express trains are proposed to be converted into air-brake during 1996-97 depending upon availability of coaches from Production Units.

1. 2307/2308 Howrah-Jodhpur Express

2. 2801/2802 Purushottam Express

3. 5659/5660 Kamrup Express

4. 6519/6520 Bangalore-Guwahati Express

5. 6045/6046 Navjeevan Express

6. 5645/5646 Dadar-Guwahati Express

7. 4055/4056 Brahmaputra Mail

8. 9055/9056 Sayaji Nagari Express

9. 2927/2928 Vadodara-Mumbai Express

10. 9031/9032 Kutch Express

11. 9005/9006 Mumbai-Okha Mail

12. 9107/9108 Mumbai-Ahmadabad Janta Express

13. 9129/9130 Vadodara-Ahmadabad Express

14. 3143/3144 Darjeeling Mail

15. 2625/2626 Kerala Express

16. 7015/7016 Vishakha Express

17. 6525/6526 Bangalore-Kanniyakumari Express

18. 2607/2608 Lalbagh Express

19. 2933/2934 Karnavati Express

Own Your Wagon Scheme

4103. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have planned to adopt a new marketing strategy which would include revision of the 'Own Your Wagonn Scheme' to make it more customer-oriented;

(b) if so, the broad features of this new marketing strategy; and

(c) the rational behind leasing out of brake van space to customers, leasing of wagons under Own-Your-Wagon-Scheme on the long-distance special parcel services between Mumbai-Delhi, Delhi-Howrah and other sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) This is a continuing exercise and interactive meetings are being held with existing and potential users at regular intervals to make the Own Your Wagon Scheme more "customer oriented"

(c) With a view to augment railway revenues and provide reliable and efficient service as well as better customer satisfaction, Railways have introduced a scheme of leasing of brake van space and parcel vans selectively on various sections. There is no scheme to lease-out the wagons under 'Own Your Wagon Scheme' for parcel traffic.

[Translation]

Automatic Machines for Tickets

4104. KUMARI UMA BHARATI
SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install automatic machines for issuing platform tickets at Railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of the places where such machines are likely to be installed;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on their installation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) There is proposal to provide 20 automatic coin operated Self Printing Ticket Machines for issue of platform tickets by Northern Railway at New Delhi, Delhi and Hazarat Nizamuddin stations. The cost of each machine is about Rs. 54,000/-

Daily Running of Mahamaya Superfast

4105. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :